

[26th March 1928]

I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Local Boards

Cyclone grants to the Nellore District Board.

* 1787 Q.—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) when the estimates for cyclone grants to Nellore District Board and the concerned taluk boards were received by the Government with the recommendations of the Collector;

(b) whether orders have been passed by the Government on the matter; if so, when; and

(c) if not, why not; and at what stage the matter is at present?

A.—(a) The District Board's first application for grants towards the repair to certain works, the estimates for which were then ready, was received with the Collector's recommendation in January 1928 and a consolidated list of other repair works in the jurisdiction of all the local boards concerned in the district was received in February 1928.

(b) & (c) Grants towards the repair of certain works under the Nellore District Board were sanctioned in February 1928. The question of providing funds for a grant towards the cost of the other works is being considered in connexion with the Civil Budget Estimate for 1928-29.

In the meantime the local boards concerned have been asked to take steps to carry out as much of the repair work as they can, meeting the expenditure from their funds.

Public Health

Aid from the Rockefeller Institute from 1920-21.

* 1788 Q.—SYED TAJUDIN SAHIB Bahadur: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health and Excise be pleased—

(a) to lay on the table a statement of monetary contributions and other technical assistance received by this Government from the Rockefeller Institute from 1920-21 till 1927-28; and

(b) to state—

(i) why the free honorary services of Dr. Kendrick of America under Hookworm campaign have been dispensed with by Government now; and

(ii) what steps are being taken by the hon. the Minister to address the Rockefeller Institute for enhancing their contributions and scope of humanitarian public health development work in this presidency and for securing their free co-operation in our anti-malarial and cholera operations also?

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A.—(i) The International Health Board of the Rockefeller Foundation has been co-operating with this Government during the past six years in carrying out an investigation into the prevalence of Hookworm in this Presidency, and into the methods by which it can most successfully be controlled. Dr. Kendrick, an officer deputed by the Board, has been in charge of the work and his pay has been met entirely by the Board. An intensive educational campaign has also been carried on from 1923-24, the cost of which has been shared equally by the Government and the Board. The amounts contributed by the Board towards the cost of this campaign are shown below:—

					RS.
1925-26	...	...	...	...	6,542
1926-27	...	...	...	...	4,455
1927-28	...	...	...	...	9,000 (Revised estimate)

(Separate figures prior to 1925-26 are not available.)

(ii) (a) The policy of the Rockefeller Foundation is to assist in financing projects of this kind, only in order to demonstrate their feasibility and to prove the desirability of the local Governments concerned undertaking the work for the benefit of the people. Once this has been done, the Foundation withdraw their assistance in the expectation that the Local Government will continue the work on the lines suggested. Dr. Heiser, Associate Director of the International Health division of the Rockefeller Foundation, visited Madras in December 1927, and he then pointed out that the policy of the Foundation had been fulfilled in this Presidency, and that the time had arrived for the Foundation to withdraw their representative, Dr. Kendrick, and for the Madras Government to carry on the work as part of the ordinary Public Health administration of the Presidency. The Madras Government agreed with reluctance to the withdrawal from 1st February 1928 of Dr. Kendrick by the Rockefeller Foundation.

(b) No steps have been taken by the Government to secure the co-operation of the Rockefeller Foundation in connexion with Anti-Malarial or Cholera operations.

Fire accident in the Madras Medical College.

• 1788-A Q—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA: With reference to question No. 967 answered on the 31st October 1927 regarding the fire accident in the Madras Medical College, will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state whether the Government have received the information and if so, what it is?

A.—The information required is laid on the table.*

* Printed as Appendix on page 611 infra.